

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed April 16, 2004. Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 1 - 32 remain pending. In particular, Applicant has amended claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, and 27. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Examiner Interview

Scott Lohnes conducted any interview with the Examiner on December 7, 2004, to discuss the Office Action. The Examiner understands that Takahashi provides information regarding the manufacturing equipment, but feels the claims are too broad and that the information could be interpreted originate from either the manufacturing equipment or the manufactured items. No agreement to the allowability of any claims was reached.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C 103(a)

The Office Action indicates that claims 1-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al. (U.S. Patent 6,618,692) in view of Hu et al. (U.S. Patent 6,314,379). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Independent Claim 1

Independent claim 1, as amended, is allowable for at least the reason that Takahashi does not disclose, teach, or suggest a service provider to “transfer engineering data corresponding to the goods after the process.”

In this regard, and with reference to the teachings of the Takahashi patent, the Office Action has cited column 18, lines 51-65:

The user reads and selects repairing items from the result of the diagnosis (1054), calls the service engineer (1056 and 1038) if necessary, and makes further inquiries and indications (1058). All these communications are carried out through the Internet. If the user wants to call a service engineer, the user can call the service engineer directly by phone or indirectly through the Internet. Finally, the diagnostic equipment asks the user whether to delete the analysis data before terminating the diagnosis (1060). The user determines "Incomplete diagnosis," "Deleting the analytic data and terminating the diagnosis," or "Terminating the diagnosis without deleting the analytic data" (1062). For termination of the diagnosis after deletion of the analytic data, the diagnostic equipment deletes the analytic data. The manufacturer terminates the periodic diagnosis with the user's consent (after confirming that the analytic data is deleted) (1064 to 1068).

As can be verified from a review of these cited portions of Takahashi, there is no teaching or disclosure of a service provider to “transfer engineering data corresponding to the goods after the process.” Takahashi merely discloses sending diagnostic information corresponding to the **manufacturing equipment**. This information is used to help determine the appropriate repair necessary for the manufacturing equipment. Therefore, the method of Takahashi includes the sending of diagnostic information for the manufacturing equipment, and Takahashi does not disclose a service provider to “transfer engineering data corresponding to the goods after the process.”

According, the rejection is deficient in this area. Notwithstanding, the undersigned has reviewed the entirety of the Takahashi patent and has failed to identify

any such teaching anywhere within this reference. Accordingly, the Takahashi patent, either individually or in combination with Hu, fails to teach or disclose the invention as defined by claim 1, and the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 6

Independent claim 6, as amended, is allowable for at least the reason that the combination of the Takahashi patent and the Hu patent does not disclose, teach, or suggest the “transferring of engineering data corresponding to the goods after the process to the control center via Internet” as similarly stated above in the discussion of claim 1. Accordingly, the combination of the Takahashi and Hu patents fails to teach or disclose the invention as defined by claim 6, and the rejection of claim 6 should be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 11

Independent claim 11, as amended, is allowable for at least the reason that the combination of the Takahashi patent and the Hu patent does not disclose, teach, or suggest a service provider to “transfer engineering data corresponding to the goods after the processes” as similarly stated above in the discussion of claim 1. Accordingly, the combination of the Takahashi and Hu patents fails to teach or disclose the invention as defined by claim 11, and the rejection of claim 11 should be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 16

Independent claim 16, as amended, is allowable for at least the reason that the combination of the Takahashi patent and the Hu patent does not disclose, teach, or

suggest the “transferring of engineering data corresponding to the goods after the processes to the control center via Internet” as similarly stated above in the discussion of claim 1. Accordingly, the combination of the Takahashi and Hu patents fails to teach or disclose the invention as defined by claim 16, and the rejection of claim 16 should be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 21

Independent claim 21, as amended, is allowable for at least the reason that the combination of the Takahashi patent and the Hu patent does not disclose, teach, or suggest a contractor to “transfer engineering data corresponding to the wafer after the processes” as similarly stated above in the discussion of claim 1. Accordingly, the combination of the Takahashi and Hu patents fails to teach or disclose the invention as defined by claim 21, and the rejection of claim 21 should be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 27

Independent claim 27, as amended, is allowable for at least the reason that the combination of the Takahashi patent and the Hu patent does not disclose, teach, or suggest the “transferring of engineering data corresponding to the wafer after the processes to the IC foundry via Internet” as similarly stated above in the discussion of claim 1. Accordingly, the combination of the Takahashi and Hu patents fails to teach or disclose the invention as defined by claim 27, and the rejection of claim 27 should be withdrawn.

Dependent Claims

Dependent claims 2-5, 7-10, 12-15, 17-20, 22-26, and 28-32 are believed to be allowable for at least the reason that these claims depend from allowable independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, and 27, respectively. In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988)

Prior Art Made of Record


The prior art made of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims 1 - 32 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



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